

### AMENDMENTS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to make the following amendments.

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 11, line 29:

Figure 15 is a graph showing production of lactic acid by yeast containing the NC39 construct of the invention.

Figure 16 is a diagram of recombinant expression constructs pM1233, pM1234, pM1238, pvr1, pM1214, pM1227, pM1248, pM1247, pM1207, pM1205 and pMI-203.

Figure 17 is a diagram of recombinant expression constructs pvr29 and pvr24, and construct pca3a prepared therefrom.

On page 72, line 7:

The L-LDH-encoding gene of *T. pretoriensis* was isolated in a similar manner to the *K. thermotolerans* gene. The strategy was again to isolate a segment of the gene using PCR amplification of *T. pretoriensis* genomic DNA using degenerate primers and to isolate the remainder of the gene via PCR-based chromosome walking. *T. pretoriensis* was obtained from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC Accession No. 36245). Genomic DNA was purified from these cells using the Invitrogen "Easy-DNA" kit according to the manufacturer's protocol. Degenerate primers were designed based on conserved sequences as described above. Two degenerate oligonucleotides were used successfully in polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplifications: